

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF JOE ALCORN TO THE SENIORS OF HENDERSON, NV

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Joe Alcorn of Henderson, NV, on being recognized as Volunteer of the Month. I am honored to represent one who has shown such devotion and dedication to our community.

Joe has been a Henderson Senior Center member since 2000. In that time he has made himself an invaluable asset to the center. By taking pictures of the seniors as they dine, dance, or relax, Joe captures the most pleasant experiences at the center, and displays them for all to enjoy. He further captures these memories by videotaping special events. Alcorn has made a documentary of the center's history, which was rerun for all Henderson residents to commemorate the city's 50th anniversary, earlier this year.

Born in Pittsburgh, Joe grew up and graduated from high school in Iowa. Cypress, CA, became his home for the next 46 years. He attended the RCA TV School where he honed his skills and became an expert in his profession. He worked as a TV service worker for a few years until beginning his own business. Joe's work was a labor of love which continued in his dedication to the Henderson Senior Center.

I rise to acknowledge the dedication that Joe Alcorn has shown to the seniors of southern Nevada. The use of his professional skills in this worthy pursuit deserves the recognition of myself and all southern Nevadans.

HONORING THE 42ND ANNUAL YMCA YOUTH GOVERNOR'S CON- FERENCE

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 42nd Annual YMCA Youth Governor's Conference that is currently being held here in Washington, DC. The YMCA Youth Governor's Conference brings together some of the most outstanding youth leaders in America. YMCA Youth and Government is a Nation-wide program that allows thousands of teenagers to simulate State and National government. The elected Youth Governors of the State programs are currently in Washington, and I am honored to serve as the Congressional sponsor for the Member's breakfast in honor of the YMCA Youth Governor's Conference.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to personally recognize each of this year's YMCA Youth Gov-

ernors for their dedication and service to America's youth.

Gina Bullock of Texas, Ethan Link of Tennessee, Alex Sanders of Georgia, Elizabeth Strassner of Oklahoma, Martin Holmes of Maine, Michael Sheflin of New Jersey, Joseph Colarusso of New York, Wayne Bragg of Mississippi, Ryan Wedge of Connecticut, Eli Turkel of Delaware, Matthew Stoller of Massachusetts.

Ann Nemitz of Arizona, Sarah Coburn of Oregon, Richard Friedman of Alabama, Judd Kennedy of Pennsylvania, Kristen Adams of Michigan, Asher Perlman of Wisconsin, Meg Dennard of Louisiana, Rushi Desai of Missouri, Torry Van Slyke of Idaho, Renee Walker of North Carolina.

Richard Marrs of Virginia, Scott Antolak of Minnesota, Kyle Smith of California, Allen Klump of South Carolina, Kyle LaFountain of New Hampshire, Justin Cajindos of Illinois, Stephen Takach of New Mexico, Justin Hoefflicker of Indiana, Rasean Crawley of Kentucky, Keisha Hyman-Girth of Washington, James Walsh of Maryland.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE REVEREND WILLIAM A. LAWSON

HON. CHRIS BELL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. BELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Reverend William Alexander Lawson on the occasion of his 75th birthday and 57th year of pastoral service.

Rev. William A. Lawson is the founding pastor of Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church located in Houston, TX. Established in March 1962 with 13 members, the congregation has grown in excess of 2,500 members. The initial emphasis of the church focused on meeting the spiritual needs of Baptists in the transitional community near Texas Southern University.

Rev. Lawson is known and admired as an outstanding preacher and teacher. He is a national and international speaker and educator. Since 1965, he has traveled internationally as a missions and evangelical speaker. He has spoken in Southeast Asia, the Middle East, and the Far East. He was invited by the government of Israel to tour the nation with the American press to help provide a more positive image of the aspirations of Israel.

Early in his career, Rev. Lawson served as director of the Baptist Student Union and professor of bible at Texas Southern University in Houston. He helped form the first Afro-American studies program at the University of Houston, and taught classes at the University of Houston in sociology and the black church.

Rev. Lawson is a community and social action leader. He founded and organized the United Way's Houston Homeless Initiative in response to the growing number of homeless and jobless persons. Under his leadership, more than \$4 million was raised to address

homelessness. He assembled a coalition of African-American political, civic and social organizations to negotiate with city, county, and school governments. The coalition is now comprised of more than sixty organizations.

In 1986 he received a Doctor of Divinity from Howard Payne University, in Brownwood, Texas. He graduated cum laude from Central Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Kansas where he received a Master of Arts in Theology and a Bachelor of Arts in Divinity. He majored in New Testament Interpretation and was appointed Teaching Fellow in Homiletics. He did his undergraduate work at Tennessee A&I State University in Nashville, Tennessee where he received a bachelor's degree. He graduated cum laude with a major in sociology.

Rev. Lawson is married to Audrey H. Lawson. They have four children and three grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Rev. Lawson on his 75th birthday and his 57 years of exceptional service and pastoral leadership.

RECOGNIZING NICHOLAS THEODOREDIS' EFFORTS IN DE- FENSE OF THE NATION

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the long awaited presentation of the Purple Heart to World War II veteran, and Las Vegas resident, Nicholas Demetrios Theodoredis. This, his second Purple Heart, recognizes the commitment to our great country shown by so many from the generation who faced the horrors of the Second World War.

I am happy to share my thanks and congratulations for this long overdue tribute to the valor of Mr. Theodoredis' service in the North African Campaign of World War II. America has been well served by such men and women and will continue, with their example, to maintain its position as a world leader and defender of liberty.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GENE TAYLOR

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, on June 18, 2003, I missed rollcall vote No. 287, an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 8, the Estate Tax Permanency Act offered by my colleague from North Dakota, Mr. POMEROY.

While H.R. 8 was being considered on the House floor, the House Armed Services Committee, of which I am a member, was receiving

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

testimony from Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz on commitments of the United States Armed Forces throughout the world. The vote on the Pomeroy substitute was called shortly after I had asked Secretary Wolfowitz a series of questions pertaining to the search for weapons of mass destruction in Iraq and rotation schedules and living arrangements for our troops who are presently serving there.

Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 287, the Pomeroy substitute, and accordingly, I would like to request unanimous consent to enter this statement into the record at the appropriate location.

DEATH TAX REPEAL PERMANENCY ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 8, the Death Tax Repeal Permanency Act of 2003, and I commend my friend from Washington Mrs. Dunn for being such a strong advocate for this legislation.

The United States is the land of opportunity, encouraging free enterprise and rewarding entrepreneurs. The estate and gift tax runs contrary, to this basic philosophy. When I came to Congress over 30 years ago, I set out to eliminate the death tax, which is simply unfair, outdated and penalizes our families, farmers and small business owners.

According to recent statistics, one-third of small business owners today will have to sell outright or liquidate a part of their firm to pay death taxes. In addition, half of those who must liquidate to pay their death taxes will each have to eliminate 30 or more jobs. In addition, small business owners that insure against such an outcome face the burden of paying onerous premiums. This is hard-earned money that otherwise could be used to expand their business. We must put an end to it once and for all.

Death tax repeal was included as part of the 2001 Bush tax cut. Under that legislation, the death tax phases out over a period of year, and is eliminated completely in 2010. Unfortunately, due to the arcane procedures of the Senate, the provisions in the 2001 bill sunset in 2011, or 10 years after enactment. Therefore, we need to take action now to make the repeal permanent.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank small business and family owned business groups like the National Automobile Dealers Association for tirelessly fighting to end this punitive and harmful tax. They have been powerful and influential advocates in this effort.

I ask unanimous consent that the following letter from the National Automobile Dealers Association urging repeal of the Death Tax be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

NATIONAL AUTOMOBILE
DEALERS ASSOCIATION,
McLean, VA, June 18, 2003.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of the National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA), the nearly 20,000 franchised new car dealer members of NADA, and their more than one million employees, we are writing

to urge you to vote yes on H.R. 8, to eliminate the estate tax once and for all.

The majority of NADA's members are small family-owned and community-based businesses. Most assets of automobile dealers are not liquid. A dealer's capital is invested in the land under the dealership, buildings housing showrooms, vehicle repair equipment, and other facilities. Dealers also need substantial working capital to finance new and used-car inventory. Thus, for dealers, the death tax can cripple or kill the family-owned business since they are left with few options but to sell the business or incur substantial debt to pay the tax.

In providing for the elimination of the estate tax in H.R. 1836 in 2001, Congress clearly recognized the inequity and unfairness of estate taxes. As it was noted at the time, there is something very wrong in our system when a small businessman or businesswoman spends a lifetime building a business, paying taxes, providing jobs and serving the community only to have the government step in at their death to collect another tax. In enacting H.R. 1836, Congress and the President wisely realized that death should not trigger a tax. Only when assets are sold should there be a taxable event.

The question now before the House of Representatives is whether to continue that wise policy beyond 2010. NADA and its dealer members and their employees firmly believe that supporting H.R. 8, making estate tax repeal permanent and postponing taxes until assets are sold is critical to the preservation of family-owned and community-based businesses like automobile dealerships.

Preserving these businesses is crucial to the health of the national economy and essential to the economic well being of local communities. These businesses provide the majority of new job growth in this country. Very often, family-owned businesses are central to the economic vitality of local communities, providing good livelihoods for millions of working Americans.

NADA respectfully urges you to vote yes on H.R. 8. This vote is about preserving family-owned businesses in local communities across this great nation. Thank you for your consideration of our views.

TRIBUTE TO KEITH OWEN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to an outstanding educator from my district. Keith Owen of Pueblo is the recipient of the 2003 Colorado National Distinguished Principal of the Year award from the Colorado Association of School Executives. Keith's peers selected him based on his leadership, respect from his school, and community service.

Keith has worked as an educator for 10 years and has served as the principal of Beulah Heights Elementary in Pueblo since 1999. Since taking the helm at the school, fourth grade reading scores have skyrocketed. Their performance on the Colorado Student Assessment Program, CSAP, have risen from 50 percent to 86 percent in only three years. The difference was so dramatic, Keith received an invitation to travel to the White House where President Bush and Secretary of Education Rod Paige cited Beulah Heights Elementary for its achievements.

Mr. Speaker, because of Keith Owen's exemplary leadership, the student's at Beulah Heights Elementary School have a greater chance of success in school and in life. Keith has made Pueblo and the State of Colorado proud, and I am truly honored to recognize him here today. Congratulations, Keith, and good luck with your future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate the City of Stamford, CT, which was recently ranked the fifth safest city in the country and the second safest city in the Northeast. Perhaps even more remarkable is that recent FBI statistics indicate Stamford led the Nation in reducing crime during 2002, recording an amazing 22 percent decrease.

This achievement is all the more impressive because Stamford was able to reduce crime despite having a smaller police force. This extraordinary accomplishment is a testament to the dedication of Chief Louis DeCarlo and the entire police force, as well as the excellent leadership of Mayor Dan Malloy and the City Government.

Stamford has led our region and Nation by implementing creative measures to reduce crime, including the use of community policing. The City also sent School Resource Officers to schools where they were able to effectively connect with the City's youth.

I also congratulate the people of Stamford who have worked so hard to make their hometown a great place to raise their children, to work and to visit.

As a former longtime resident of Stamford, I can attest to how wonderful a place it is to live. Stamford's tremendous potential is reinforced by its designation as one of the safest cities in America.

IN HONOR OF LAMBDA THETA PHI, CELEBRATING ITS 2003 NATIONAL BROTHERHOOD CONFERENCE

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lambda Theta Phi Fraternidad Latina for its continued advocacy and celebration of Latino culture. Lambda Theta Phi will be holding its 2003 National Brotherhood Conference on June 20-22nd at the Wyndham Hotel in Newark, NJ.

Founded in 1975 at Kean University in Union, NJ, Lambda Theta Phi has grown from 14 founding members to over 85 national chapters. It is the first and only nationally recognized Latino Greek letter fraternity in the United States.

For over 25 years, Lambda Theta Phi has played a leading role in building unity among Latinos and provided a critical support network as young Latinos pursue their academic and

professional careers. The work of the fraternity has truly embodied its principle of "en la union está la fuerza" (in unity there is strength). Lambda Theta Phi has helped provide a number of Latinos with a strong sense of community and an extensive peer network as they graduate college and embark on their professional careers.

Lambda Theta Phi also continues to provide valuable service to the community through responsible political and social action. The diverse makeup of the fraternity places it in a unique position to promote cultural awareness and to provide positive role models for the Latino community. Lambda Theta Phi is known for its dedication to activities that benefit the community including citizenship and voter registration drives, disaster relief, and Hispanic college days, which provide an opportunity for Latino high school students to visit colleges.

As an honorary member of Lambda Theta Phi, it is my distinct pleasure to congratulate all the members of the fraternity and wish them the best as they continue to connect Latinos across the country and help to build unity among the next generation of Latino leaders.

Today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Lambda Theta Phi Fraternidad Latina for promoting unity among Latinos, and to congratulate all the members of the fraternity as they celebrate their 2003 National Brotherhood Conference.

RECOGNITION OF WORLD REFUGEE DAY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I stand today as Ranking Member of the Africa Subcommittee and Member of the Refugee Caucus to recognize World Refugee Day, declared on June 20, 2000 by a special UN General Assembly Resolution. The Republic of Tanzania has a solid record of supporting and harboring the largest number of refugees in Africa and therefore I extend my respect unto this nation for its vitally important work. These refugees have fled from conflicts in neighboring countries such as Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Somalia. I affirm and commend the generosity of Tanzania towards refugees and asylum seekers and urge that they be fully recognized by our nation.

Statistics show that approximately 700,000 refugees have found safe haven in Tanzania. Tanzania has also displayed its generosity through the acceptance of 3,500 Somali Bantus for resettlement in the eastern part of the country. In the west, refugees fleeing conflict and genocide in countries like Burundi, Rwanda and Congo have also found refuge in this nation. Emerging from a long and bloody civil war that lasted a decade and claimed the lives of more than 100,000 people while displacing hundreds of thousands, Burundi is only now getting back on its feet. The Great Lakes Region of the African continent is one of great beauty and a long history but has in recent years been plagued by many bloody conflicts and ethnic warfare. The wars in the Congo and Rwanda are two more examples of such

conflicts. Tanzania provided a safe haven for some 120,000 Congolese refugees and some 25,000 refugees from Rwanda by the end of 2001. I am hopeful that the on-going peace efforts in a number of these neighboring countries will hopefully provide the opportunity for these refugees to repatriate to their homes in safety and dignity. I must at the same time note that the resolution of the conflicts that have driven these refugees from their homes is not by any means guaranteed to be accomplished in the near future as the region is quite volatile and unpredictable. Therefore the generosity of Tanzania could very well be called upon again. This is even more reason that I offer my respect to this country that has provided this noble service.

While harboring refugees is often perceived as being a burden, Tanzania provides an example of how this service can also be functional within the context of administering a nation. Refugees can provide human and economic resources for a nation to draw upon. On this Refugee Day I recognize the efforts of Tanzania and recognize the 3.1 million refugees and more than 10 million Internally Displaced Persons on the continent of Africa. May you soon be able to return to your homes in safety, security, and health.

HONORING NORMAN AND MARILYN COOPER ON THEIR GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, Marilyn (Isaacs) and Norman Cooper were high school sweethearts in Brooklyn, NY, who spent their first married years together at Fort Gordon, Georgia, during Norman's military service in the Korean Conflict. Returning to New York together, with little more than each other, they successfully built a thriving pest control business and raised a loving family.

Their passions for art, food, culture and adventure have taken Marilyn and Norman Cooper to the far reaches of the globe. While hiking the Andes, heli-skiing in New Zealand, on safari in Africa, lecturing in Japan or trekking in Tibet or India, they have developed an appreciation for the diversity of the world, as well as the common bonds of all humanity.

Marilyn and Norman Cooper have always sought to better the world around them, whether helping dissidents escape the Soviet Union during the cold war, volunteering for the Children's Blood Foundation in their hometown of Rye, NY, raising funds for the United Jewish Appeal, or helping other entrepreneurs achieve their dreams. Their enduring legacy includes three children and seven grandchildren, each imbued with their values of compassion, curiosity, intellect, creativity, love and the responsibility to help make the world a better place.

LEGISLATION RECOGNIZING PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S FOUNDING OF THE LAWYERS' COMMITTEE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak today to introduce legislation recognizing President Kennedy's founding of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law by supporting the designation of June 21, 2003 as "Equal Justice Day" in honor of the Committee's tireless efforts over the past 40 years to secure justice and equal opportunity for all. On June 21, 1963, I was summoned to White House along with 250 other members of the bar by President Kennedy to help resolve the civil rights crises which gripped the nation. Without President Kennedy's vision for racial justice, the bar would have remained silent in the face of vocal resistance by southern state legislatures against desegregation.

For more than four decades, the Lawyers' Committee has worked to advance the civil rights of African Americans and other racial and ethnic minority communities in the areas of environmental protection, employment, affirmative action, fair housing, and voting. The Committee protects fundamental civil rights by representing African Americans and other racial and ethnic minorities and women in the courts, advocating strong enforcement of civil rights laws before administrative bodies, working in coalition with other organizations, and by educating the public about important civil rights issues. Among many other achievements over the years, the Lawyers' Committee was successful in: fighting for passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, securing a landmark, unanimous U.S. Supreme Court Decision that strengthened First Amendment protections for peaceful political boycotts in *Claiborne Hardware Co. v. NAACP*, and coordinating a Church Burning Project in the 1990s to provide free legal services to churches that were destroyed during the bitter rampage of racially motivated church burnings.

By supporting the designation of June 21, 2003 as "Equal Justice Day", we will recognize the achievements of the Lawyers' Committee, as its staff and pro-bono attorneys, clients and friends commemorate and celebrate its 40th anniversary. I urge you to support this legislation that will honor President Kennedy's commitment to implementing justice reflected in the accomplishments of the Lawyers' Committee and the many hours of pro-bono service offered by lawyers and law firms throughout this country.

RECOGNITION OF WORLD REFUGEE DAY

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to recognize World Refugee Day, declared on June 20, 2000 and every year thereafter by a special UN General Assembly Resolution. The adoption of this resolution marked an expression of solidarity with Africa, which hosts the

most refugees and has extended help generously in the past. This year, World Refugee Day renews a commitment to explore all means possible to encourage cooperation among nations in seeking permanent and durable humanitarian solutions for refugees.

On World Refugee Day, the UNHCR celebrates the many contributions of refugees around the globe, as well as highlights their particular vulnerabilities and ongoing need for protection and assistance. This year, World Refugee Day is dedicated to refugee youth. In Central Africa alone, 57 percent of refugees are under age 18. Young people between the ages of 12 and 24 represent about 35 percent of all refugees. Deprived of the protection of their homes and communities, young people are vulnerable to abuses including forced labor; military or terrorist recruitment; and sexual exploitation.

This year, we recognize the governments of Kenya, Tanzania, and Zambia in honor of World Refugee Day. Tanzania is home to Africa's largest refugee population, primarily from Burundi and Congo-Kinshasa. According to Refugees International, 700,000 refugees have found safe haven in Tanzania. The Republic of Kenya continues to provide sanctuary for refugees and displaced persons from Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, Somaliland, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Djibouti. The new leadership is moving forward in a positive and receptive direction. Over 250,000 refugees continue to seek refuge there. The peaceful transition in Angola and the innovative burden-sharing arrangement by the Zambian government, as host to Angolan refugees, also deserves praise. There is much to be learned from their example. We encourage these and other governments in their continued hospitality and promotion of humanitarian assistance to refugees and displaced persons.

TRIBUTE: TELLURIDE VOLUNTEER
FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress today to pay tribute to the

contributions that the men and women of the Telluride Volunteer Fire Department have made to the Telluride community and the State of Colorado. This year, the Telluride Volunteer Fire Department will be marking its 125th anniversary of service to the community. As we reflect upon this landmark anniversary, I would like to commend the Telluride Volunteer Fire Department for its invaluable public service.

The Telluride Volunteer Fire Department's technology has evolved at the same rapid pace as the town that it serves. Since its early days, the department has become one of the best-equipped volunteer fire departments in the country. In addition to its technology and equipment, the efficacy of the Department has depended upon its volunteers' unwavering commitment and the community's steadfast support. The department's skill and level of commitment have earned it a position as one of the most respected organizations in the community.

The Department serves the Telluride community in numerous ways. Each year, the Department provides a \$1,000 renewable scholarship to one graduating senior from Telluride High School. This year, members of the Fire Department expect to increase the amount of the scholarship to \$1,500. Moreover, the Department is responsible for putting on a spectacular fireworks display each year for its Fourth of July celebration.

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply honored to pay tribute to the Telluride Volunteer Fire Department. The Fire Department's volunteers selflessly sacrifice their time in order to provide a vital service to the Telluride community. I commend the Telluride Volunteer Fire Department for 125 years of excellence and thank its volunteers for their exemplary public service.

HONORING SERGEANT DALE D.
STEVENSON

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today on behalf of the wonderful men and women of the Michigan State Police. Day after

day, these brave people work to maintain safe streets for our children to live and play. On June 20, the Michigan State Police will recognize one of their own, as they gather to celebrate the retirement of Sergeant Dale D. Stevenson after 25 years of dedicated service. Dale Stevenson was born October 5, 1955 in Caro, MI, and graduated from Caro High School in 1973. In 1977, he graduated from Delta College with an Associated Degree in Law Enforcement and Police Administration, and a year later began his career with the Michigan State Police, with an assignment to the Ypsilanti, MI, Post. In 1983, he returned home to work at the Caro Post, and after stints in Bay City and Sandusky, was again stationed in Caro, where he remained, serving as Acting Lieutenant/Post Commander.

During his 25-year tenure with the State Police, Sgt. Stevenson was the well-deserving recipient of numerous honors and citations, and his actions have benefited law enforcement officials from all over the state. A member of the State Police Underwater Recovery Unit since 1981, Dale has played a vital part in many investigations throughout the Great Lakes. From saving drowning victims in Saginaw Bay to joining recovery units for the Mackinac Bridge, he constantly put his own safety at risk to help keep others from harm. His underwater work has given him the opportunity to act as team leader in an international effort to recover a sunken vessel from the Detroit River, and take part in a submerged vehicle study featured on the Discovery Channel.

In addition to becoming an upstanding member of his hometown community, Dale has always found time to be a devoted husband to Linda, his wife of 25 years, and father to their sons Ty and Christopher, and daughter Jocelyn. Dale is also a member of the First Baptist Church of Caro, and is District Chairman of Ducks Unlimited.

Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress, I consider it my duty and my privilege to protect and defend human dignity and the quality of life for our citizens. I am extremely grateful to have a person like Sgt. Dale Stevenson who shares these beliefs, and has made it his life's work to see this task achieved. I ask my colleagues in the 108th Congress to please join me in congratulating Dale, and wishing him the very best in his retirement.